

HOUSE RESOLUTION 126

By Clemmons

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate the Vanderbilt University men's golf team, 2017 Southeastern Conference Champions.

WHEREAS, the members of this legislative body are honored to recognize those student athletes who, through their athletic endeavors, bring honor and acclaim to themselves, their universities, and this State; and

WHEREAS, one such group of remarkable student athletes is the Vanderbilt University men's golf team, which recently won the 2017 Southeastern Conference (SEC) Tournament Championship for the first time in the history of the program; and

WHEREAS, ranked third in the nation, the Commodores entered the SEC championship tournament as the top seed in the tournament, which was played on the par-70, 6,898-yard Seaside Course at the Sea Island Golf Club in St. Simons, Georgia; and

WHEREAS, under a revised format, the tournament began with fifty-four holes of stroke play over two days with the top eight teams advancing to match play to determine the 2017 SEC Championship; and

WHEREAS, paired with golfers from the University of Florida and Louisiana State University during stroke play, Commodore golfers Matthias Schwab, Theo Humphrey, Will Gordon, Patrick Martin, and John Augenstein finished the first day of stroke play in second place; and

WHEREAS, scorching the greens on the second day, the young men in black and gold carded the best round of the day with an eight-under par, 272, an all-time Vanderbilt-best at the SEC Championship, and they entered match play as the number one seed; and

WHEREAS, in a display of courage and determination, the Commodores came from behind to win their quarterfinal match against Ole Miss by a score of 3-2 as Matthias Schwab came from three holes down to tie his match on the 17th hole and win it on the 18th to give Vanderbilt the victory; and

WHEREAS, in the semi-finals, Vanderbilt once again faced Florida; the match came down to the final pair as John Augenstein went extra holes with his Gator foe before making a ten-foot putt on the 20th hole of his round to give Vandy the win; and

WHEREAS, in a classic fight worthy of an SEC Championship, Vanderbilt and Texas A&M fought like heavyweights on the course, with the Commodores taking an early lead with victories by Patrick Martin and Theo Humphrey before the Aggies won the next two pairings; and

WHEREAS, once again the final outcome rested on the shoulders of Vanderbilt sophomore John Augenstein, who like the day before, was all-square after playing eighteen holes with his opponent; and

WHEREAS, in a display of fortitude, self-confidence, and character, the young Commodore battled his rival shot for shot over the next five holes and made a winning par putt on the 23rd hole as his rival bogeyed to claim the match for Vanderbilt, and with the win, the first SEC Tournament Championship in the history of the program; and

WHEREAS, the members of the 2017 SEC Champion men's golf team are Zach Herr, Matthias Schwab, Michael Decker, Theo Humphrey, Will Gordon, Andrew Jacobe, Patrick Martin, John Augenstein, and Mason Greenberg; and

WHEREAS, the Vanderbilt Commodores enjoyed the astute leadership and guidance of head coach Scott Limbaugh, assistant coach Dusty Smith, and volunteer assistant coach Charlie Ewing; and

WHEREAS, the dedication, perseverance, and commitment to excellence displayed by these individuals, both on and off the golf course, have enabled them to find success in the athletic arena and will surely engender success in all their future endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is wholly fitting that the members of this talented team be recognized by this legislative body for their accomplishments; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby recognize and congratulate Coach Scott Limbaugh and the members of the 2017 Vanderbilt University men's golf team on their recent capture of the SEC Tournament Championship and extend to them our best wishes for their continued success in all future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.